Dead Bird Disposal

Information for Poultry and Egg Producers

Dead birds should be disposed of in a manner that prevents the attraction of wild birds, rodents, and other animals and avoids the potential for cross-contamination with dead birds from other facilities.

- **Remove from House/Barn**
  
  *Dead birds should be removed each day to determine the daily mortality rate or recognize a cluster of mortality within a portion of the house/barn*

  - Place dead birds in a closed, leak-proof container
  - Locate dead bird collection container outside of the Line of Separation (LOS) for each house/barn
  - If you cross the LOS to remove dead birds, follow site-specific Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for re-entry
  - Dead birds should be stored in closed containers

- **Dispose**
  
  *Properly dispose of dead birds to prevent avian influenza virus transmission*

  - Dead bird collection containers for the site should be located at the edge of the Perimeter Buffer Area (PBA)
    - Trucks/equipment that collect and transport dead birds should remain outside of the PBA
  - If using on-site disposal (burial, incineration, composting), locate disposal area outside of the PBA
  - Dead bird disposal should occur at the end of the shift, avoiding the need to re-enter housing areas

- **Clean and Disinfect**
  
  *Clean and disinfect items used to collect or transport dead birds to prevent avian influenza virus transmission*

  - Clean and disinfect dead bird collection containers before returning to the house

[Source: CFSPH, ISU]